

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 3.1% (3,859) of these admissions reside in the Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District. 5.1% (195) of admissions from the Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District reported the following characteristics:

- 69% were male and 31% were female.
- 61% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 75% were white non-Latino, 10% were black non-Latino, 12% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 67% were never married, 14% were married, and 18% reported not to be married now.
- 32% had less than high school education, 49% completed high school, and 19% had more than high school education.
- 25% were employed.
- 17% were homeless.
- 29% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	36%	36%	8%	6%	2%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,422	1,785	657	978	798	817	466
FY '96	2,553	1,829	738	985	808	1,072	720
FY '97	2,519	1,831	737	796	564	1,060	760
FY '98	2,704	1,884	784	792	442	1,197	804
FY '99	3,078	2,222	937	920	463	1,263	898
FY '00	3,635	2,621	1,098	982	449	1,468	1,081
FY '01	3,516	2,314	915	811	328	1,402	975
FY '02	3,859	2,454	977	923	296	1,575	1,064

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Third Essex and Middlesex Senatorial District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

